A REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE BRITISH NATION.

Thursday, January 8. 1708.

I Will not determine, with what Principle a new Notion is ſtarted in Print, of our Fighting *France* at Sea, being *the chief Part of our Buſineſs*; I know, thoſe People, that would not have us beat *France* at all, mightily fall in with ſuch a Notion; I hope, the Author, I am talking to, is only miſtaken, and not knowingly miſ-leading others, and therefore I ſhall proceed with due Reſpect. The Subject, advanc'd by him, is;

That *ruining the Naval Power of* France, *is the only Way to humble him.*

I ſay, it may be *a Help*, but it is far from being the *only Way*. 1. Becauſe you cannot reduce him by it; if it were done, it is *ſingly* not at all the Way to humble him; it may help, but by Land is the main Stroke to be ſtruck; this firſt Head I ſpoke to in my laſt. I proceed,

2. It is not *the only Way* to humble him, for whenever you attempt him by Sea, and neglect him by Land, he is ſo ſuperiour to all the Confederates, he will fully make himſelf Amends on them, and in ſpight of all our Naval Efforts compleat the Deſtruction of *Europe*'s Liberties; I think, I need not go far for Examples——Suppoſe, *France* had not had one Ship at Sea, or one Ship to put to Sea, no Privateers to infeſt our Trade, and no Convoys to guard her own; pray, Sir, what would that have contributed to ſave the Empire, when the Duke of *Marlborough* march'd into *Bavaria*? Could our victorious Navy have defended *Vienna*, or ſecur'd the Imperial Crown, when the Duke of *Bavaria* would in two Months have made himſelf Emperor, if he had pleaſed. Again, what could our Fleet have done more

more than it did, in the Affair of *Savoy*, and what could that ſignifie to the Relief of *Turin*? You had a Fleet in the *Levant* Seas, the *French* had not a Ship at Sea, at leaſt not a Squadron, you were abſolute Maſters at Sea, and yet the City of *Turin* had been loſt, and the Duke of *Savoy* been ruin'd for all your Navy, if Prince *Eugene* had not march'd up to their Teeth, and drove the *French* Army out of their Entrenchments.

3. To ſay, the only Way to humble *France* is to ruin his Naval Power, is to confute the other Part, (*viz.*) That the War ſhould be proſecuted chiefly by Sea, for you can never ruin his Naval Power but by Land; you had never ruin'd the Ships at *Vigo*, and taken the Booty there, tho' they were 60 Sail to 22, but for the Land-Forces that beat them from their Batteries; you had ruin'd the Naval Power of *France* at *Thoulon*, had your Land-Forces been ſufficient, but that Failing, the Fleet was oblig'd to give it over, ſo that this War muſt be chiefly carry'd on by Land; the Navy is to concur on all Occaſions, and ought to be ready for that Concurrence, but the Sum of the Matter is by Land.

I come now to remove two fortifying Obſervations of this Author. 1. That King *William* got nothing, or *Britain* got nothing by the late War. 2. The Battles of *Hockſtet* and *Ramellies* have been far from ruining the *French*.

For the *firſt*, I referr the Author to the Articles of the Peace of *Ryſwick*, and there let him ſee, whether we got nothing by that War; I preſume, he is not unacquainted with the Conditions: If he means by *Britain* getting, what we go in Territory, tho' I cannot think, he will fly to ſo mean a Shift: I anſwer, we got all we fought for, we got a good Barrier in *Flanders*, and a good Peace, had it continu'd, and its Non-Continuance cannot be conſider'd in this Diſpute; but if he means, as I ſuppoſe he would be underſtood, what the Confederates gain'd, let him look back to the Frontiers, where he will ſee all the ſtrong Towns in *Flanders* reſtored, *Mons*, *Charleroy*, *Aeth*, *Oudenard*, *Courtray* demoliſhed, the *Chatelany* of *Tournay*, the whole Province, and the impregnable City of *Luxemburgh* gain'd, *Dinant* demoliſhed, and all reſtored in *Flanders*, that could be demanded, on the *Moſelle*; *Treves* ſurrendred, *Mont Royal* demoliſhed, all *Lorrain*, and the Country between the *Saar* and the *Moſelle* deliver'd, the mighty Fortreſſes of *Ffiburgh*, *Briſac* and Fort *Kiel*, all the *Briſgau*, the *Hontruck*, the black Foreſt, and the Forreſt-Towns all ſurrendred, with all *Savoy* and *Piedmont* parted with before. I might enumerate a Multitude of other things, which *France*, being humbled by this War, diſgorg'd for a Peace; and all this by that War, which King *William* is upbraided for beginning to no Concluſion.

Come we now to the Battles of *Hockſtet* and *Ramellies*, which this Gentleman ſays, were far from humbling *France*, we ſee and find, they had various Effects; they ſav'd the Emperor, they turn'd the whole Scale of *Europe*, they brought *France* to make great Offers of Peace, and to ſue for it; nay, they brought him to proclaim Days of Humiliation, Faſting and Prayer, to deprecate the Judgments of GOD, and the Ruin, which they juſtly fear'd, was at their Doors; and had it not pleas'd GOD, either to hear their Prayers, or our Sins, I ſhall not ſay which; but had we been bleſs'd with one Victory more, *viz.* That of *Thoulon* this laſt Year, *France* had been ruin'd entirely, and that whether his Naval Power had been deſtroy'd or no; for it had been but one Part of his Navy, that had fallen into our Hands.

To ſum up all, I do allow, that to ruin the Naval Power of *France*, is of very great Conſequence; but that it is the only Way to humble *France*, or the chief Thing to be heeded in it, cannot be true—— And conſequently the Reflection made on the Conduct of his late Majeſty cannot be juſt.

I think, I need ſay little to the 3*d* Head, *viz.* proving the contrary; the Extremities, the late Succeſſes of the Army reduc'd the Houſe of *Bourbon* to, are evident Teſtimonies of the contrary: How King *Philip* had left *Madrid*, and was on the Point to have abandon'd all *Spain*; how the King of *France* was brought on his Knees to GOD Almighty, to ſave him from the threatning

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Deſcents of the Confederates, who look'd on his Power ſo broken, that they refuſed to treat with him of Peace, which he in a plain Manner ſolicited for—All the Navies in the World, had the whole Naval Strength of *Europe* been againſt him, and He without a Ship, could not have done this.

This War muſt be puſh'd at Land, the Duke of *Savoy* cannot be aſſiſted by Sea, King *Charles* III. muſt have good Armies to help him, a Fleet will never drive King *Philip* again from *Madrid*; it muſt be an Army muſt defend the Frontiers of *Portugal*, an Army muſt prevent the Mareſchal *De Villars* from making a ſecond Eruption into *Germany*, and it muſt be an Army muſt keep the *French* from regaining the open Cities of *Flanders*, and inſulting the *Dutch* at their own Doors; what theſe Gentlemen mean, who tell us, the War with *France* muſt be carry'd on chiefly by Sea, I will not determine, let them ſpeak for themſelves: This, I know, that the Enemies of our preſent War with *France* readily chime in with the Complaint, that we puſh our Affairs in foreign Countries, and neglect the Navy; but their Reaſon is particular, becauſe they would have us turn our Force, where we can do the *French* leaſt Harm.

If theſe Gentlemen mean well, as I hope they do, and if they would ſay, we ſhould with more Application purſue our Advantages at Sea, as what is the only Way to intercept the Current, and ſtop the Sluces of Money, which from the *Weſt-Indies* ſupply both *France* and *Spain*, and make them able to ſupport this War, which otherwiſe they would find great Difficulty to do; if this be their Meaning, I joyn with them heartily.

If they ſay, we ſhould eſtabliſh a Stationary Guard for our Home Commerce, and to ſecure the going out and coming in of our Ships; that Convoys, Cruiſers and Squadrons be better regulated, both for our Defence, and the punctual Supply of our Affairs abroad, this I alſo joyn in.

But when they come to ſtate an Emulation between the Sea and the Land Service, and this muſt be encreaſed, and that ſlackned, ſetting them one againſt the other; as it is contrary to the concerted Meaſures of all our Allies, contrary to the Judgment of all Nations, ſo it is contrary to the Nature of the thing, and the Reaſon of it too, which directs our Force to be moſt pointed, where the Enemy is ſtrongeſt; as when the Town is on Fire, the Engines direct their Spouts chiefly, where the Flame is moſt impetuous, and it would be waſting Water, Hands and Time, to play moſt where the Fire was weakeſt, and would leave the main Force of the Fire uninterrupted, till it got ſuch a Head, as all the Engines at laſt could not quench.

Thus, I think, I have ſtated the Caſe as inoffenſively as I can; he that will be ill-natur'd on ſuch a Sort of Treatment as this, will want Diſcretion as well as Manners, neither of which I hope, I have now to deal with: I hope, the Gentleman will think it but Juſtice to make the Memory of King *William* Amends by an ingenuous Acknowledgment of his ill Uſage to him; and for the reſt we ſhall ſoon underſtand, or explain Things to Satisfaction.

MISCELLANEA.

WELL, Gentlemen, what ſay you now to my Queries in the laſt *Miſcellanea* about our Collonies? One tells me, they are crabbed, ill-natur'd Queſtions; I wiſh, the Publick would be pleaſed to think them worth anſwering, I mean to themſelves; and that the Parliament would be pleas'd to take it into Conſideration, how to ſtrengthen, encreaſe and encourage our Collonies, that if ever that Side of the World comes to be in wiſer Management than it has been, and a King ſhould ariſe that knows not *Joſeph*, we may not be made Bonds-men there to the *Egyptians*; and give me Leave to ſay, 100000 Men in *Flanders* will be cheaper maintain'd, than ſuch a Force to be-

be ſent thither, as may be needful to match the united Power of *France* and *Spain*; the *firſt* inveſting as it were, all our Main-Land Collonies, lying on our Backs for above 800 Miles in Length; and the *Laſt*, having our Iſlands juſt at his own Door, can from the *Havana* pour in what Forces he pleaſes, when we can by no poſſible Method be at Hand to help them.

But to put them into a Poſture to defend themſelves, and to help one another, that the Center of their Strength may be near at Hand, and within the Reach of an Advice-Boat, that the Help may be at Hand, and they may be always ſtrong enough to be formidable, not contemptible, and make their Enemies know, there is a Power ready, whenever Neceſſity calls. This is certainly the Way, and I might be permitted to ſay, it is the only Way to ſave our Collonies in Time to come.

I believe, I need not explain my ſelf in this Matter, but as remote as I am, if it ſhould be uſeful to enter into Particulars, either publickly or privately, I am ready to do it, and I doubt not, but it ſhall be to the Conviction of any reaſonable Perſon.

Urging the Convenience of putting our Collonies in a Poſture to help and defend one another, I might here give a long and melancholly Account of the ſeveral Expeditions, which have at various Times and upon nice Occaſions been ſent to our *Weſt-Indies*. But I break off here, and ſhall refer it to a Time more ſuitable.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

WEnt away the 2d Inſtant, being diſorder'd in his Mind, an *Armenian*; his Name *Mannook*, a tall, ſlim Fellow, roundiſh Fac'd, a little Pock-fretten, with large black Brows and very white Teeth, who, thro' Impatience of returning to *Perſia*, is ſuppos'd to have made his Way towards ſome of the Sea Ports, and for the quicker Diſpatch has left his Cloths behind him, and travels almoſt naked, wearing only a *Grecian* Cap, and a quilted Calicoe Coat, ſpeaks no *European* Language but *Portugueſe*, and a few Words of broken *Engliſh*, in which, according to his Cuſtom, he will make a Shift to tell every one he ſpeaks to, that he is a Chriſtian, and that he came with Mr. *Richard Buſnet* by Land from the King of *Perſia*, to the QUEEN, and the Honourable *Eaſt-India* Company.——— Whoever ſhall ſtop this forlorn Courier, are deſired to uſe him kindly, and bring him back, or detain him, and give Notice to Mr. *Richard Buſnet*, at Mr. *Nixons* in *Warwick Court*, *London*, and all reaſonable Charges ſhall be allow'd, and a Reward of ten Shillings for the Trouble.

Theſe are to give Notice,

THat MARY KIRLEUS, the Widow of JOHN KIRLEUS, Son of Dr. THO. KIRLEUS, a Sworn Phyſician, in ordinary to King *Charles* II. Sells (rightly prepar'd) his Famous Drink and Pills; experienc'd above 30 Years to cure all Ulcers, Sores, Scabs, Itch, Scurf, Scurvies, Leproſies, Running of the Reins, and the moſt inveterate VENEREAL Diſeaſe, with all its attending Symptoms, without Fluxing, Confinement, or deſtructive Mercurial Preparations: Theſe incomparable Medicines need no Words to expreſs their Virtues; the many miſerable One that have been happily cured, after gives over by others, ſufficiently recommend them as the moſt Sovereign Remedy in the World againſt all ſuch Malignities: She cures many after Fluxing, and in Compaſſion to the diſtreſſed, will deal according to the Patient's Ability. The Drink is 3 s. the Quart, the Pill 1 s. the Box with Directions, and Advice *Gratis*.

+++ *She lives at the Golden-Ball in Hand Court, over againſt great Turnſtile in Holborn.*

THE famous GOUT ANTIDOTE, that by Bathing only has lately cured ſo many Perſons afflicted with the moſt violent Raging Pains of the Gout and Rheumatiſm, reſtoring them to compleat and perfect Eaſe to a miracle, (as will be atteſted at Mr Allcraft's, one of the Places of Sale) and that hath been experienced by thouſands who have been cured by it, to be the only Remedy capable to give preſent Relief in the utmoſt Extremity, or almoſt diſtracting Torturing Pains of the Gout and Rheumatiſm, when all other means have been uſed in vain: It moſt infallibly takes away all manner of Pain in leſs then half an Hours time to admiration, and not only takes off a Fit for the preſent, but alſo prevents it returning again, and moſt certainly keeps the Gout from the Stomach. Is Sold only at Mr. Allcraft's a Toy-Shop, at the Blew-Coat Boy againſt the Royal Exchange in Cornhill, and at Mr. Brook's, Stationer, at the Ship near the May-Pole in the Strand, at 3 s. 6 d. a Bottle with Directions.